

VZCZCXRO8425
OO RUEHBZ RUEH DU RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN
DE RUEHSB #0246 0901718
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 301718Z MAR 08
FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2648
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1853
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 1977
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0550
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1254
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1611
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 2033
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 4464
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUA EJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK
RHMFISS/EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1104
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS HARARE 000246

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DS FOR IP/AF AND IP/ITA
CA FOR OCS/ACS
AF/S FOR S. HILL,
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU
ADDIS ABABA FOR ACSS
STATE PASS TO USAID FOR E. LOKEN AND L. DOBBINS
STATE PASS TO NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR B. PITTMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [PGOV](#) [ZI](#)

SUBJECT: MUGABE EXPECTED TO DECLARE VICTORY; EAC ADVISES
STANDFAST OVERNIGHT

REF: HARARE 245 AND PREV

11. (SBU) Embassy contacts in both the MDC and ZANU-PF reported at 17:30 Sunday evening that President Mugabe was planning to declare himself the winner of Zimbabwe's presidential election. MDC sources understood the announcement was scheduled for 18:30 pm local time; ZANU-PF sources were less definitive. MDC sources said the MDC would preempt the Mugabe announcement by releasing results showing that Morgan Tsvangirai won the election.

12. (SBU) Embassy EAC assembled at 18:30 and discussed this information. Ambassador chaired the meeting which was attended by DCM, RSO, CONS, RAO, POL, AID, MGT and DAO. The EAC agreed that Post should activate the warden network and advise all American citizens and Embassy staff to return to their homes and remain for the evening. Further information would be provided early Monday morning concerning whether to resume normal activities.

13. (SBU) Subsequent to the EAC, MDC sources informed Post they believed the Mugabe announcement would be delayed, so they were delaying their announcement. The EAC determined to maintain its decision to advise citizens to standfast overnight.
MCGEE